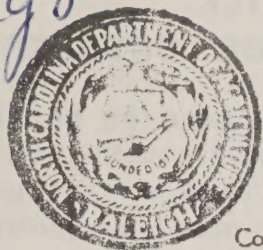
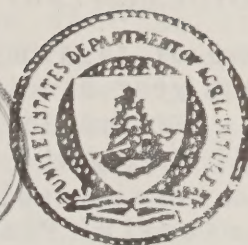


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NORTH CAROLINA



Cooperative Crop Reporting Service

No. 196

RALEIGH, N. C.

NOVEMBER 23, 1955

N. C. HAS SECOND HIGHEST CORN YIELD PER ACRE

On the basis of yield reports from growers, as of November 1, corn production will be the largest since 1951. Production is estimated at 65,696,000 bushels. A 1955 corn production of 65,696,000 bushels would be almost 15 million bushels more than was produced in the drought-stricken year 1954 and about 3 million above the 10-year average.

Growers expect to harvest an average yield of 32 bushels per acre and, if realized, this would be 8 bushels above the yield for 1954 and will also be the second highest yield of record. A record yield per acre was established in 1950 when 33 bushels were produced.

Corn harvesting operations have been somewhat slower than usual, especially in the heavy producing Coastal Plains area. Rainfall that followed the hurricanes kept this area extremely wet for several weeks, and most producers have had to wait for drier weather. Good progress in harvesting was made during the two weeks prior to November 1 in all areas of the State. An estimated 45 to 50 percent of the crop was harvested prior to November 1.

N. C. SOYBEAN PRODUCTION 12 PERCENT BELOW 1954

Reports from growers, as of November 1, indicate a soybean crop of 4,132,000 bushels. This is 12.0 percent below the 1954 crop of 4,720,000 bushels. If the November 1 estimate is realized, production is expected to be the lowest since 1949 except for 1953 when 4,076,000 bushels were produced.

The currently estimated yield per

(Continued on Page 2)

N. C. PEANUT PROSPECTS ARE SLIGHTLY LOWER

The 1955 peanut crop for picking and threshing is estimated at 259,350,000 pounds as of November 1. This is 3 percent below the October 1 forecast, although 3 percent above the production for the drought-stricken year 1954.

(Continued on Page 2)

RECORD FLUE-CURED CROP STILL INDICATED FOR N. C.

Reports from tobacco growers and warehousemen, as of November 1, indicate a North Carolina flue-cured crop of 1,001,705,000 pounds. This is 23,330,000 pounds, or 2.4 percent above the previous record 1951 crop of 978,375,000 pounds and is 12.6 percent more than the 1954 crop of 889,490,000 pounds. The previous record North Carolina flue-cured crop, set in 1951, was produced on 735,000 acres compared with an estimated 655,000 acres harvested this year.

Record yields per acre will be set for all types of tobacco produced in the State. Type 11 (Old and Middle Belt) production is estimated at 353,175,000 pounds, with an average yield per acre of 1,385 pounds. Type 12 (Eastern Belt) production is estimated at 519,880,000 pounds, with an average yield per acre of 1,640 pounds. Type 13 (Border Belt) production is estimated at 128,650,000 pounds, with an average yield per acre of 1,550 pounds.

The North Carolina Burley tobacco crop is estimated at 22,660,000 pounds from 10,300 acres, for an average record yield of 2,200 pounds per acre.

Total United States flue-cured production is estimated at 1,514,043,000 pounds. A crop of this size would exceed the 1954 crop by 199,636,000 pounds, or 15.2 percent.

SOYBEANS(Continued)

acre of 14.5 bushels compares with 16.0 last year and is the lowest since 1948.

Storms followed by excessive rainfall during the crucial production period did considerable damage to the crop in the Coastal Plains area. However, some fields of soybeans are producing fair to good yields. Expected yields from the Piedmont section are considered good although the acreage for beans is very small when compared with the Coastal Plains area.

PEANUTS(Continued)

Current prospects indicate a yield of 1,425 pounds per acre. This compares with 1,465 pounds last year and 1,190 pounds for the ten-year (1944-53) average yield.

Most of the crop has been dug and stacked after some delay from wet ground during early October. Picking and threshing is now underway and reports indicate that only a small percent of the crop has been picked to date.

MEAT ANIMALS OUTLOOK IN STRONG POSITION

Meat animals in future years will hold a very strong and probably an increasing position in the agriculture of the United States. Projections for the period centering in 1960 indicate that their production will be large, and their prices, while not unusually high, will compare favorably with prices of other farm products. Meat animals will likely contribute a rising proportion of the total income to farmers. In the early twenties meat animals provided 24 percent of all cash receipts from farming. They have more recently accounted for almost 30 percent. Since the prospective future position of meat animals is relatively favorable, the percentage may well continue upward.

Hogs: Production of hogs is expected to expand over the next few years following a probable cutback in late 1956 and 1957. It may generally keep up with the rate of population growth or exceed it slightly. United States agriculture is well suited to production of hogs. Demand for pork may remain strong enough to sustain such a gradual

(Continued on Page 8)

RECORD FLOW OF MILK FOR OCTOBER

Milk production on farms in North Carolina during October is estimated at 141 million pounds. This was a record for the month, the next highest level, at 139 million pounds, having been reached in October of 1953.

The average milk production per cow in herd as of November 1 was 14.5 pounds. This was only slightly above the 14.3 pounds reported for the same time in 1954, but it was 5.8 percent above the November 1 output in 1953 and 13.3 percent above the comparable 10-year average yield for 1944-53. Total October production for the United States was 9,324 million pounds as compared to 9,021 million for October of 1954, a 3.4 percent increase.

OCTOBER EGG PRODUCTION AT RECORD HIGH

Egg production in North Carolina amounted to 115 million eggs during the past month, the highest output for October on record. Layers on hand amounting to 8,759,000 and an average lay of 1,308 eggs per 100 birds were, also, at peak levels for that month. Performance for October of 1954 was the next highest in order, when an average of 8,683,000 layers produced 1,246 eggs per 100 layers with a total lay of 108 million. This year's October lay was seasonally seven million eggs above the production of 108 million for the previous month of September, the latter having tied with October a year ago.

October production for the United States was estimated at 5,181 million eggs, almost a two percent increase over the 5,085 million laid during the same month a year earlier.

Expanding activity for the Nation pushed the total value of goods and services produced in the third quarter to an annual rate of \$392 billion, 9% more than a year earlier. Rising consumer income and increased use of credit are supporting buying at record rates. Business investment in new plant and equipment is increasing. Industrial production rose to record levels in September and employment continues high.

SWEETPOTATO PRODUCTION EXPECTED TO BE 4½ MILLION BUSHEL

The 1955 sweetpotato crop is estimated at 4,500,000 bushels. The current production estimate is 12 percent above 1954 although 21 percent below the 10-year average.

November 1 prospects point to a yield per acre of 100 bushels compared with 93 last year and 107 for the 10-year 1944-53 average.

Harvesting of the sweetpotato crop is progressing rapidly throughout most of the State. Reported yields vary considerably within localities. Sweetpotatoes planted on well drained sandy soils are reported to be giving good yields, while the crop on heavier lowland soils is generally turning out poorly.

COTTON GINNED PRIOR TO NOVEMBER 1 IN NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY	NO. RUNNING BALES*	
	1955	1954
STATE TOTAL	264,698	331,843
Anson	11,319	8,811
Bertie	1,871	4,634
Bladen	987	2,217
Cabarrus	2,806	2,591
Catawba	1,944	1,651
Chowan	1,134	2,082
Cleveland	36,388	23,363
Cumberland	6,884	9,480
Duplin	1,209	3,204
Edgecombe	2,292	6,507
Franklin	2,999	3,329
Gaston	1,046	786
Gates	868	1,313
Halifax	9,819	14,300
Harnett	10,523	18,804
Hertford	2,065	3,161
Hoke	5,892	7,160
Iredell	6,673	6,064
Johnston	7,616	16,543
Lee	1,439	2,375
Lenoir	906	1,309
Lincoln	8,097	5,446
Mecklenburg	6,538	6,133
Nash	4,572	9,694
Northampton	11,405	15,446
Perquimans	608	1,253
Pitt	2,205	6,656
Polk	2,554	1,697
Richmond	2,289	3,006
Robeson	31,967	38,480
Rowan	3,064	2,961
Rutherford	6,850	4,972
Sampson	13,312	18,940
Scotland	13,175	16,690
Stanly	2,594	2,171
Union	15,738	13,693
Wake	1,423	3,000
Warren	2,715	4,132
Wayne	4,992	10,764
Wilson	3,108	9,365
All Other	10,812	17,660

* Linters are not included.

SMALLEST PECAN CROP SINCE 1930

Reports from growers as of November 1 indicate pecan production at 800,000 pounds, the smallest crop since 1930. The November 1 estimate is 20 percent below the short crop of 1954 and is 66 percent below the 10-year average production of 2,371,000 pounds. The season's estimated production is expected to consist of 80,000 pounds of wild and seedlings, and 720,000 pounds of improved varieties.

Pecan trees were damaged by the severe freeze on March 25, and further damage to the crop was caused by the hurricanes during August and September.

The United States production of pecans is estimated at 91,550,000 pounds, 1 percent above the short crop of last year, but 35 percent below average.

AVERAGE RATES FOR PICKING 100 POUNDS OF SEED COTTON*

YEAR	North Carolina	United States
	DOLLARS	
1955	3.25	2.75
1954	3.15	2.70
1953	3.35	2.80
1952	3.50	3.05
1951	3.35	3.00
1950	2.85	2.65
1945	2.30	1.93
1940	.67	.62

* For 1945 and later years averages include rates paid for snapping bolls converted to seed cotton.

NORTH CAROLINA ESTIMATED ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION OF CROPS NOVEMBER 1, 1955 WITH COMPARISONS

CROPS	UNIT	ACREAGE (IN THOUSANDS)			YIELD (IN UNITS)			PRODUCTION (IN THOUSANDS)		
		Average 1944-53	Harvested 1954	Indicated 1955	Average 1944-53	1954	Indicated 1955	Average 1944-53	1954	Indicated 1955
Corn, All.....	Bu.	2,204	2,116	2,053	28.4	24.0	32.0	62,641	50,784	65,696
Wheat, Winter.....	Bu.	410	338	324	17.5	22.0	21.5	7,178	7,436	6,966
Oats.....	Bu.	375	523	528	31.1	39.0	35.0	11,734	20,397	18,480
Barley.....	Bu.	38	57	57	28.8	34.0	29.0	1,108	1,938	1,653
Rye.....	Bu.	22	18	19	13.0	15.0	15.0	274	270	285
TOBACCO: All.....	Lbs.	710.2	698.7	665.3	1,207	1,308	1,540	855,264	913,874	1,024,365
Type 11.....	Lbs.	272.0	266.0	255.0	1,119	1,120	1,385	304,066	297,920	353,175
Type 12.....	Lbs.	341.8	334.0	317.0	1,256	1,430	1,640	428,016	477,620	519,880
Type 13.....	Lbs.	85.2	86.0	83.0	1,238	1,325	1,550	105,346	113,950	128,650
All Flue-Cured....	Lbs.	699.0	686.0	655.0	1,204	1,297	1,529	837,428	889,490	1,001,705
Type 31, Burley....	Lbs.	11.2	12.7	10.3	1,598	1,920	2,200	17,835	24,384	22,660
Cotton 1/.....	Lbs.	701	545	463	334	319	368	492	364	355
Sorghum, All.....	-	40	110	143	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sorghum Grain.....	Bu.	2/	89	120	2/26.2	25.0	28.0	2/ 590	2,225	3,360
Irish Potatoes, All.....	Bu.	63	39	40	137	151	175	8,508	5,889	7,000
Sweetpotatoes.....	Bu.	53	43	45	107	93	100	5,690	3,999	4,500
Soybeans, Alone All Purposes	-	390	441	423	-	-	-	-	-	-
Soybeans, For Beans.....	Bu.	255	295	285	14.4	16.0	14.5	3,735	4,720	4,132
Peanuts, Alone All Purposes.	-	272	178	189	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peanuts, Picked and Threshed	Lbs.	257	172	182	1,190	1,465	1,425	297,142	251,980	259,350
Hay: All.....	Tons	1,248	1,130	1,099	1.02	.96	1.14	1,266	1,081	1,253
Clover & Timothy 3/...	Tons	98	96	96	1.12	1.05	1.20	110	101	115
Alfalfa.....	Tons	41	67	74	2.11	1.80	2.30	87	121	170
Lespedeza.....	Tons	513	467	392	1.05	.85	1.10	539	397	431
Pasture, Condition.....	%	-	-	-	-	-	-	75	49	78
Peaches, All.....	Bu.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,742	1,150	4/
Apples, Commercial 5/.....	Bu.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,220	1,900	40
Pears, All.....	Bu.	-	-	-	-	-	-	164	125	4/
Grapes, All.....	Tons	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.3	2.6	2.1
Pecans: All.....	Lbs.	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,371	1,000	800
Wild or Seedling....	Lbs.	-	-	-	-	-	-	257	140	80
Improved.....	Lbs.	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,114	860	720

1/ Production in Bales.

2/ Short time average.

3/ Excludes sweetclover and lespedeza hay.

4/ 1955 crop almost a complete failure because of spring freeze. A few peaches may be produced but prospective production is too small to warrant a forecast at this time.

5/ Estimates of commercial crop refer to total production in commercial apple areas.

UNITED STATES ESTIMATED ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION OF CROPS NOVEMBER 1, 1955 WITH COMPARISONS

CROPS	UNIT	ACREAGE (IN THOUSANDS)		YIELD (IN UNITS)		PRODUCTION (IN THOUSANDS)	
		Average 1944-53	Harvested 1954	Indicated 1955	Average 1944-53	Indicated 1955	Indicated 1955
Corn, All.....	Bu.	84,675	79,875	80,765	36.4	37.1	39.4
Wheat, Winter.....	Bu.	47,942	38,636	33,891	18.0	20.5	20.3
Wheat, All.....	Bu.	67,656	53,712	47,376	17.1	18.1	19.3
Oats.....	Bu.	39,556	42,151	42,009	33.4	35.6	38.9
Barley.....	Bu.	10,329	12,994	14,099	25.9	28.5	27.4
Rye.....	Bu.	1,740	1,718	2,081	12.1	13.8	13.7
TOBACCO:	Lbs.	1,046.7	1,042.2	994.3	1,195	1,261	1,523
Burley.....	Lbs.	454.5	420.9	325.8	1,270	1,585	1,596
All Types.....	Lbs.	1,734.3	1,666.1	1,520.5	1,213	1,342	1,498
Cotton <u>1</u> /.....	Lbs.	22,096	19,251	16,514	279	341	431
Sorghums, All.....	-	13,283	17,828	21,400	-	-	-
Sorghum Grain.....	Bu.	<u>2</u> /7,180	10,764	13,228	<u>2</u> /18.4	19.0	17.1
Irish Potatoes, All.....	Bu.	1,967	1,408	1,444	213.1	252.8	365.8
Sweetpotatoes.....	Bu.	496.5	345.5	338.7	94.3	86.5	106.6
Soybeans, Alone All Purposes	-	13,740	18,753	19,860	-	-	-
Soybeans, For Beans.....	Bu.	11,987	17,037	18,397	19.9	20.1	20.2
Peanuts, Alone All Purposes.	-	3,134	1,936	2,034	-	-	-
Peanuts, Picked & Threshed..	Lbs.	2,562	1,388	1,656	784	737	1,050.0
HAY: All.....	Tons	74,328	72,770	74,667	1.38	1.43	1.47
Alfalfa.....	Tons	16,685	22,996	25,082	2.21	2.15	2.10
Clover & Timothy <u>3</u> /...	Tons	22,097	19,312	18,064	1.41	1.43	1.48
Lespedeza.....	Tons	6,343	3,702	4,307	1.04	.82	1.13
Pasture, Condition.....	%	-	-	-	-	-	-
peaches, All.....	Bu.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Apples, Commercial <u>4</u> /.....	Bu.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pears, All.....	Bu.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grapes, All.....	Tons	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pecans: All.....	Lbs.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wild Or Seedling.....	Lbs.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Improved.....	Lbs.	-	-	-	-	-	-

1/ Production in Bales.
2/ Short-Term Average.

3/ Excludes Sweet Clover and Lespedeza Hay.

4/ Estimates of the commercial crop refer to total production of apples in commercial apple areas of each State.

5/ For some States in certain years production includes some quantities unharvested on account of economic conditions.

N. C. SORGHUM GRAIN
PRODUCTION UP 51 PERCENT

Based on reports from growers, as of November 1, a sorghum grain crop of 3,360,000 bushels is estimated. A production of this size would be 51 percent above the 1954 crop of 2,225,000 bushels. Growers are expected to harvest 120,000 acres compared with 89,000 last year. Current yield prospects

indicate 28 bushels per acre, 3 above the 1954 average.

Growing conditions were generally favorable this year, and a good crop of grain was set. Excessive rainfall during August and September caused some immature grains to deteriorate, also wet weather mold attacked some fields.

N. C. COTTON CROP ABOUT EQUALS LAST YEAR

On the basis of reports from growers and ginner, the 1955 Tar Heel cotton crop is forecast at 355,000 bales (500-pounds gross weight) as of November 1. Such a crop would be 9,000 bales, or 2.5 percent, less than production last year and 137,000 bales, or 27.8 percent below the 10-year average crop.

Weather conditions during October were most favorable for picking operations. Temperatures were near normal and rainfall, Statewide, was below normal for the month. Reports from ginner indicate that about three-fourths of the

crop had been ginned as of November 1. Harvesting of the crop is nearing completion in some Piedmont counties, while picking of the crop in northern and central coastal counties is less advanced than usual, as of November 1.

The United States cotton crop is forecast at 14,843,000 bales as of November 1. A crop of this size would be 8 percent above the 1954 crop and 15 percent above the 1944-53 average crop. Details of the November 1 report are as follows.

COTTON ESTIMATES NOVEMBER 1, WITH COMPARISONS

STATE	Acreage for Harvest 1955 1/	Lint yield Per Harvested Acre			Production (Ginnings) 2/ 500-lb. Gross Wt. Bales			Ginnings to November 1, 1955
		Average 1944-53	1954	1955 Indicated Nov. 1	Average 1944-53	1954	1955 Indicated Nov. 1	
	(000)	(POUNDS)			(THOUSAND BALES)			
N. C.	463	334	319	368	492	364	355	265
S. C.	715	312	288	386	692	501	575	507
Ga.	869	253	286	387	695	612	700	630
Tenn.	570	360	405	518	565	548	615	369
Ala.	993	286	298	505	908	728	1,045	944
Miss.	1,679	341	384	572	1,693	1,571	2,000	1,567
Mo.	389	368	478	494	358	450	400	298
Ark.	1,453	338	380	532	1,386	1,351	1,610	1,147
La.	607	331	399	467	591	572	590	477
Okla.	807	160	151	268	390	293	450	248
Tex.	6,649	188	245	307	3,388	3,940	4,250	2,392
N. Mex.	176	500	743	736	217	316	270	111
Ariz.	340	598	1,039	967	481	911	685	208
Calif.	743	631	806	808	1,048	1,487	1,250	364
Others 3/	61	283	367	380	47	52	48	26
U. S. TOTAL	16,514	279	341	431	12,952	13,696	14,843	9,553

1/ September 1 estimate. 2/ Production ginned and to be ginned. A 500-lb. bale contains about 480 net pounds of lint. 3/ Virginia, Florida, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky and Nevada.

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR OCTOBER, 1955

October was a typical mid-autumn month in North Carolina, with plenty of fair weather and sunshine. Cold fronts moved across the State at the rate of about one per week, bringing brief periods of scattered shower activity, followed in each case by high pressure and a return of the fair weather. Sunshine prevailed during about three-fourths of the daylight hours, and there were no severe storms reported during the month. Even thunderstorms were rare, being generally reported only on the 29th and 30th of the month. No winds exceeding 30 miles per hour were reported except on the coast.

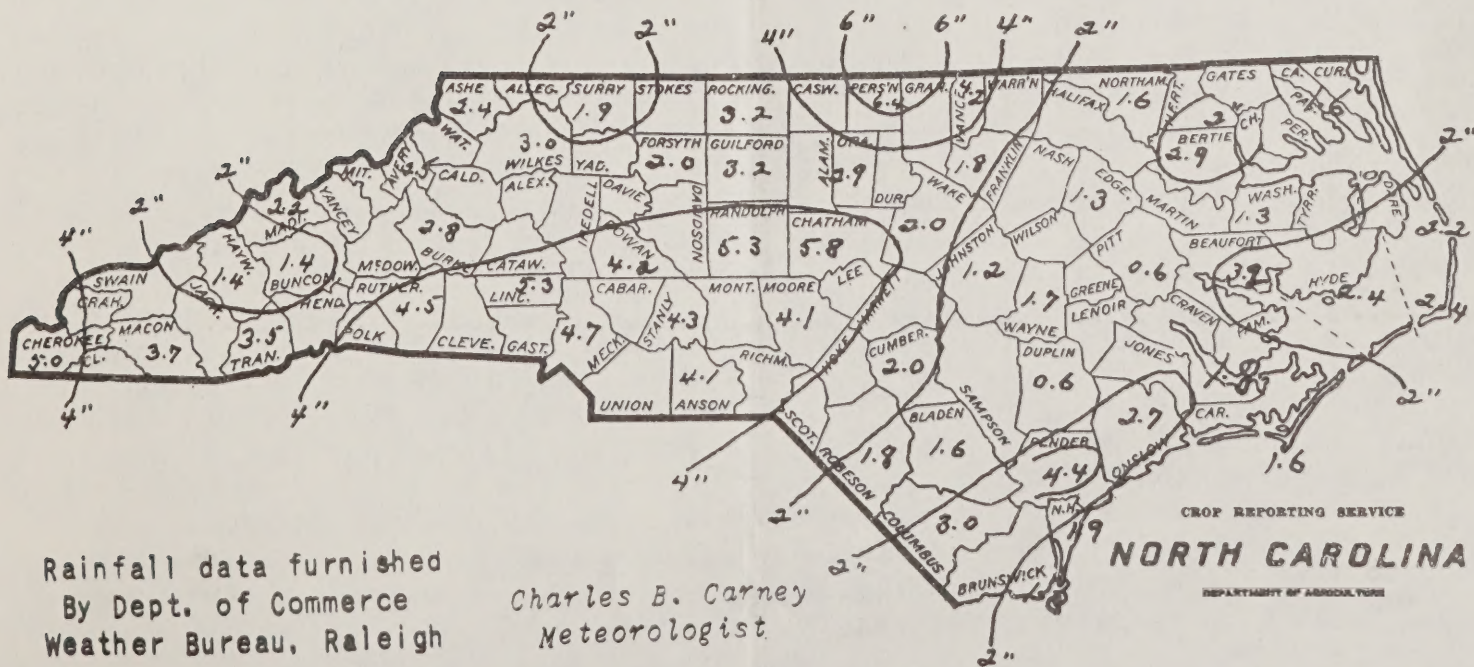
TEMPERATURE: With fair weather prevailing during most of October, daytime temperatures were mild and nights a little on the cool side. There was no hot weather; the highest temperatures reported were in the middle eighties, and only scattered localities in the southern half of the State got that warm.

Elsewhere, the highest readings of the month were within a degree or two of eighty. On the other hand,

low temperatures were not extreme; lowest readings barely reached the freezing point in the western half of the State (except for higher mountain elevations) and there was no freeze over most of eastern North Carolina.

PRECIPITATION: October was a dry month, though not much drier than it normally is. Some rain occurred with each cold front passage, averaging about once a week through the month, but on most occasions the rain was light and in the form of scattered showers. The principal exceptions were at the first and last of the month, when there were widespread general rains. The rains around the 1st yielded amounts averaging more than an inch, and ranged up to five inches in places. Rains occurring on the 29th and 30th averaged half an inch, and ranged up to two inches locally. In spite of this, some places in the Coastal Plain had less than an inch for the whole month. The average over the State was about three inches, with the heaviest average over the Piedmont.

INCHES OF RAINFALL OCTOBER, 1955



FARM REPORT

Compiled by authority of
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Marketing Service
Agricultural Estimates Division
S. R. Newell, Director

Published by
NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Division of Statistics
L. Y. Ballentine, Commissioner of Agriculture

Released semi-monthly through the
Crop Reporting Service at Raleigh
Henry L. Rasor, Statistician in Charge

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MEAT ANIMALS (Continued)

expansion. Prices of hogs would likely be higher than the low average prices in the fall of 1955 but perhaps no higher than prices in the same period of 1954. The hog-corn price ratio would at least be equal to its longtime average.

Cattle: Production of cattle in 1958-62 can be estimated only with regard for the probable course of the cattle cycle in the intervening years. Slaughter of female stock apparently has already proceeded to a point that will initiate declining annual production and reduced cattle numbers the next few years. If prospects for only a rather small decrease prove true, numbers could be again on the increase during much of the 1958-62 period. By the end of that span they might have surpassed the 1955 number of 95 million. Aided by strong consumer demand for beef, prices of cattle will likely average appreciably higher in 1958-62 than in the last three years.

A prospective level as estimated from the foregoing conditions would remain well below the prices of the boom years 1950-52. It might be near the average of the immediate postwar years 1946-49.

Sheep and Lambs: Numbers of sheep and lambs on farms and ranches are expected to turn upward before the beginning of the 1958-62 period. Decreases in numbers on western ranges will slow down, while increases in farmland of West and East will likely continue. At most, however, increases will be moderate. Sheep will remain an industry of secondary importance in American agriculture. Prices of sheep and lambs would average higher than in the last few years. But they too would not turn to their onetime highs.